

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:
  - displaying financial instrument trading information on a screen, the financial
  - 5 instrument trading information including a first menu for displaying a first set of alternatives with respect to a first order parameter;
  - receiving user input that indicates selection of an alternative from the first set of alternatives; and
  - displaying a second menu as part of the financial instrument trading information,
  - 10 the second menu for displaying a second set of alternatives with respect to a second order parameter, the second set of alternatives which constitute the second menu being selected based at least in part on the alternative selected by the user input from the first set of alternatives.
- 15 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second menus are adjacent each other at a lower portion of the screen.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the displayed financial instrument trading information includes respective quotations for a plurality of financial instruments.
- 20 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the financial instruments are common stocks.
5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the displayed financial instrument trading information includes information concerning at least one financial instrument trading order.
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6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the at least one financial instrument trading order includes at least one order to buy or sell a common stock.

5           7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the displayed financial instrument trading information includes respective quotations for a financial instrument at a plurality of order destinations.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the financial instrument is a common  
10 stock.

9. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second menus are pull down menus.

15           10. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first order parameter is a financial instrument trading symbol and the second order parameter is an order destination.

11. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first order parameter is an order  
20 destination and the second order parameter is an order type.

12. A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

allowing a user to select an action from among the following set of actions: (a) enter order; (b) enter ticket; (c) cancel order; (d) update order; and (e) reload order;

25           the selected action being defined at least in part by said first order parameter and said second order parameter.

13. A method comprising:

displaying financial instrument trading information on a screen, the financial instrument trading information including a first menu for displaying a first set of

5 alternatives with respect to a first order parameter;

receiving user input that indicates selection of an alternative from the first set of alternatives; and

displaying a second menu as part of the financial instrument trading information, the second menu for displaying a second set of alternatives with respect to a second order  
10 parameter, the second menu selected based at least in part on the alternative selected by the user input from the first set of alternatives.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the first and second menus are pull down menus.

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15. A method according to claim 13, wherein the displayed financial instrument trading information includes respective quotations for a plurality of financial instruments.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein the financial instruments are  
20 common stocks.

17. A method according to claim 13, wherein the displayed financial instrument trading information includes respective quotations for a financial instrument at a plurality of order destinations.

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18. A method according to claim 17, wherein the financial instrument is a common stock.

19. A method according to claim 13, further comprising:

5       allowing a user to select an action from among the following set of actions: (a) enter order; (b) enter ticket; (c) cancel order; (d) update order; and (e) reload order; the selected action being defined at least in part by said first order parameter and said second order parameter.

10       20. A method comprising:

displaying a first order type menu at times when a first order destination alternative is selected from an order destination menu; and

displaying a second order type menu at times when a second order destination alternative is selected from the order destination menu, the second order type menu being  
15       different from the first order type menu.

21. A method comprising:

displaying a first order destination menu at times when a first financial instrument trading symbol is displayed in an order input area of a user interface; and

20       displaying a second order destination menu at times when a second financial instrument trading symbol is displayed in the order input area, the second order destination menu being different from the first order destination menu.

22. A method according to claim 21, wherein:

25       the first financial instrument trading symbol represents a first common stock; and

the second financial instrument trading symbol represents a second common stock.

23. A method according to claim 21, wherein:

5       the first financial instrument trading symbol represents a common stock; and  
      the second financial instrument trading symbol represents an option.

24. A medium storing processor-executable process steps, the process steps including:

10       a step to display financial instrument trading information on a screen, the  
      financial instrument trading information including a first menu for displaying a first set of  
      alternatives with respect to a first order parameter;

      a step to receive user input that indicates selection of an alternative from the first  
      set of alternatives; and

15       a step to display a second menu as part of the financial instrument trading  
      information, the second menu for displaying a second set of alternatives with respect to a  
      second order parameter, the second set of alternatives which constitute the second menu  
      being selected based at least in part on the alternative selected by the user input from the  
      first set of alternatives.

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25. A medium according to claim 24, wherein the displayed financial instrument trading information includes respective quotations for a plurality of financial instruments.

26. A medium according to claim 25, wherein the financial instruments are  
25   common stocks.

27. A medium according to claim 24, wherein the displayed financial instrument trading information includes respective quotations for a financial instrument at a plurality of order destinations.

5           28. A medium according to claim 27, wherein the financial instrument is a common stock.

29. A medium according to claim 24, wherein the first order parameter is a financial instrument trading symbol and the second order parameter is an order  
10 destination.

30. A medium according to claim 24, wherein the first order parameter is an order destination and the second order parameter is an order type.

15           31. A medium storing processor-executable process steps, the process steps including:

          a step to display financial instrument trading information on a screen, the financial instrument trading information including a first menu for displaying a first set of alternatives with respect to a first order parameter;

20           a step to receive user input that indicates selection of an alternative from the first set of alternatives; and

          a step to display a second menu as part of the financial instrument trading information, the second menu for displaying a second set of alternatives with respect to a second order parameter, the second menu selected based at least in part on the alternative  
25 selected by the user input from the first set of alternatives.

32. A medium storing processor-executable process steps, the process steps including:

a step to display a first order type menu at times when a first order destination alternative is selected from an order destination menu; and

5 a step to display a second order type menu at times when a second order destination alternative is selected from the order destination menu, the second order type menu being different from the first order type menu.

33. A medium storing processor-executable process steps, the process steps including:

a step to display a first order destination menu at times when a first financial instrument trading symbol is displayed in an order input area of a user interface; and

a step to display a second order destination menu at times when a second financial instrument trading symbol is displayed in the order input area, the second order  
15 destination menu being different from the first order destination menu.

34. An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions  
20 adapted to be executed by said processor to:

display financial instrument trading information on a screen, the financial instrument trading information including a first menu for displaying a first set of alternatives with respect to a first order parameter;

receive user input that indicates selection of an alternative from the first  
25 set of alternatives; and

display a second menu as part of the financial instrument trading information, the second menu for displaying a second set of alternatives with respect to a second order parameter, the second set of alternatives which constitute the second menu being selected based at least in part on the alternative selected by the user input from the first set of alternatives.

35. An apparatus comprising:  
a processor; and  
a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:  
display financial instrument trading information on a screen, the financial instrument trading information including a first menu for displaying a first set of alternatives with respect to a first order parameter;  
receive user input that indicates selection of an alternative from the first set of alternatives; and  
display a second menu as part of the financial instrument trading information, the second menu for displaying a second set of alternatives with respect to a second order parameter, the second menu selected based at least in part on the alternative selected by the user input from the first set of alternatives.

36. An apparatus comprising:  
a processor; and  
a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:  
display a first order type menu at times when a first order destination alternative is selected from an order destination menu; and



display a second order type menu at times when a second order destination alternative is selected from the order destination menu, the second order type menu being different from the first order type menu.

5           37. An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:

10           display a first order destination menu at times when a first financial instrument trading symbol is displayed in an order input area of a user interface; and

display a second order destination menu at times when a second financial instrument trading symbol is displayed in the order input area, the second order destination menu being different from the first order destination menu.